

**Today's Quote:** *"It is almost impossible to smile on the outside without feeling better on the inside."*

- Anonymous.

## **New Jersey Cerebral Palsy Association Awarded \$1.1 Million in Federal Grants to help Improve Access to Services within the Hispanic Community**

The federal government has awarded two grants totaling \$1.1 million to the Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County - in partnership with the Family Resource Network - to help support the development of culturally competent services in Perth Amboy's Hispanic community for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The grants, which extend for five years, were awarded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) as part of the Family Support 360 Centers project. The ADD is part of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

The funding, authorized through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act of 2000), is to be used to help assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are able to "participate in the design of, and have access to, culturally competent services, supports, and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity, integration and inclusion into the community."

The Middlesex County Association intends to use the funding to design and implement a Family Support 360 Center, to be called the NJ 360 Center. The Center will provide transition planning services to teenagers and young adults with developmental disabilities who are preparing to leave their educational entitlement and move to the adult system of care. The Center also will serve as a community resource for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, by offering culturally competent workshops, trainings, accessible technology and access to an extensive database of resources through the Family Resource Network.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) supported these grant applications. DDD believed the application exemplified many of the DDD Core Principles, and in particular the principle of helping families to "access quality, culturally competent services."

### ***How many people have recently moved to the community from developmental centers?***

**Year One: July 2007 - June 2008 = 121**

**Year Two: July 2008 - June 2009 = 112**

**Year Three: June 2009 – October 7, 2009 = 33**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DDD Presents County-Based Forums

DDD invites individuals who are in Real Life Choices, Self-Determination and/or individuals who are at the top of priority and priority-deferred categories of the Waiting List for Waiver Services (formerly known as the Community Services Waiting List) or Residential Waiting List, to attend a county-based family forum. These forums are geared toward the family's need to plan and prepare for the well-being of their adult child/children with developmental disabilities.

The forums are being held in each of the state's 21 counties. For information, contact Janice Delorenzo at [janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us) or call her at 609-689-1794.

### Sussex County Family Forum Information:

- **Date:** October 28, 2009
- **Time:** 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- **Location:** The Willowglen Academy, 8 Wilson Drive, Sparta, New Jersey

**Note:** The upcoming Fall county-based forums will be Monmouth, Burlington and Passaic.

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## “The Vision Becomes Reality” - November 19 & 20

The New Jersey Association of Community Providers presents its 26th Annual Conference, “The Vision Becomes Reality,” on November 19 and 20, 2009. It will be held at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, NJ. Conference attendees will have the opportunity explore “best practices and new approaches” at a time when New Jersey moves toward a consumer-driven system for supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and brain injuries.

### The conference will include:

- Pre-Conference Symposium featuring Stephen Haines' presentation on “The Roller Coaster of Change;”
- Monica Oss of Open Minds speaking on “The Business Model Innovation in the Disability Support Field;”
- Two full days of varied and enriching workshops; and
- The keynote address on “Seeing and Thinking Beyond Disabilities” by Danny Murphy, actor and founder of Blue Zone Productions, a theatre company for performers with disabilities.

To register through a new online registration process, go to: [www.njacp.org](http://www.njacp.org) or click on this link, <http://guest.cvent.com/i.aspx?4W,M3,e5e1d9f8-1e0f-4258-9046-5daca8515d08>.

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## Free Fall Conference for Parents of Children with Special Needs sponsored by Cherry Hill Township:

**Date:** Saturday, October 17, 2009

**Time:** 8 AM – 2 PMpm

**Location:** Carman Tilelli Community Center, 820 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

This free conference is open to parents and professionals. It features expert presentations on a variety of topics affecting the special needs child. Representatives from federal, state and local agencies will be available to you. **Registration is required; space is limited.** Free breakfast is sponsored by the Ellisburg McDonalds. For more information or to register, contact (856) 488-7868 or send e-mail to [Ombudsman@CHTownship.com](mailto:Ombudsman@CHTownship.com).

## Workshop:

### Navigating the New System -- What Families Need to Know about the Major Changes in the System that Serves Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

New Jersey's system of service provision for individuals with developmental disabilities is currently undergoing a major shift with significant changes to services for individuals with developmental disabilities. This will mean that individuals and their families will need to develop a new set of skills and an understanding of new terminology.

Join other families at this workshop and learn how to navigate the service system for people with developmental disabilities as these significant changes occur. This workshop will provide families with valuable information regarding what it means to be on the Community Care Waiver, the changes to the waiting list, the shift to self-directed services with individualized budgets and other changes.

This workshop, developed in partnership with The Arc of New Jersey and the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), will provide families with valuable information.

#### **Some details on the next workshop are outlined below:**

***Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2009***

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Location: The Arc of Cape May County,  
822 Route 47, South Dennis, NJ 08245

RSVP to: (609) 861-7100 ext. 119

***Wednesday, December 2nd, 2009***

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: The Arc of Somerset County  
Jill Court Adult Training Center

3 Jill Court, Building 15, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

**RSVP: Jamon Watson at [Jamonw@thearcofsomerset.org](mailto:Jamonw@thearcofsomerset.org) or 908-725-8544, Ext 607**

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### **Fall 2009 Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series - No Registration Fee**

The autumn 2009 Disabilities Lecture Series is a community and continuing education activity of The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities. It is sponsored by the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Department of Pediatrics.

There is no registration fee, but advanced registration is required. Sessions are held from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM. For more details and to register, visit our website at [http://rwjms.umdnj.edu/boggscenter/dd\\_lecture/DD\\_lecture.html](http://rwjms.umdnj.edu/boggscenter/dd_lecture/DD_lecture.html)

**Friday, October 16, 2009**

Employment and the New World  
Karen Flippo, M.A.  
Hilton-Woodbridge

**Friday, October 30, 2009**

Sharing Lives that Matter  
Jeffrey Strully, M.A.  
Doubletree Guest Suites, Mt. Laurel

**Tuesday, November 17, 2009**

Lives of Distinction: Keys to Co-creating Community Membership  
and Contribution in the Lives of People with Disabilities  
Beth Mount, Ph.D.  
Doubletree Guest Suites, Mt. Laurel